

UTILITY PATENT APPLICATION TRANSMITTAL

(Only for new nonprovisional applications under 37 CFR 1.53(b))

Attorney Docket No. 1083.1076/JDH

First Named Inventor or Application Identifier:

Tomohito SHIDA

Express Mail Label No.

APPLICATION ELEMENTS

See MPEP chapter 600 concerning utility patent application contents.

ADDRESS TO: Assistant Commissioner for Patents
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Washington, DC 20231

1. ☒ Fee Transmittal Form
2. ☒ Specification, Claims & Abstract [Total Pages: 37]
3. ☒ Drawing(s) (35 USC 113) [Total Sheets: 12]
4. ☒ Oath or Declaration [Total Pages: 3]
- a. ☒ Newly executed (original or copy)
- b. ☐ Copy from a prior application (37 CFR 1.63(d)) (for continuation/divisional with Box 17 completed)
- i. ☐ **DELETION OF INVENTOR(S)**
- Signed statement attached deleting inventor(s) named in the prior application, see 37 CFR 1.63(d)(2) and 1.33(b).
5. ☐ Incorporation by Reference (usable if Box 4b is checked)
The entire disclosure of the prior application, from which a copy of the oath or declaration is supplied under Box 4b, is considered as being part of the disclosure of the accompanying application and is hereby incorporated by reference therein.
6. ☐ Microfiche Computer Program (Appendix)
7. ☐ Nucleotide and/or Amino Acid Sequence Submission (if applicable, all necessary)
- a. ☐ Computer Readable Copy
- b. ☐ Paper Copy (identical to computer copy)
- c. ☐ Statement verifying identity of above copies

JC641 U.S. PTO
09/693919
10/23/00

ACCOMPANYING APPLICATION PARTS

8. ☒ Assignment Papers (cover sheet & document(s))
9. ☐ 37 CFR 3.73(b) Statement (when there is an assignee) [] Power of Attorney
10. ☐ English Translation Document (if applicable)
11. ☐ Information Disclosure Statement (IDS)/PTO-1449 [] Copies of IDS Citations
12. ☐ Preliminary Amendment
13. ☒ Return Receipt Postcard (MPEP 503) (Should be specifically itemized)
14. ☐ Small Entity Statement(s) [] Statement filed in prior application, status still proper and desired.
15. ☒ Certified Copy of Priority Document(s) (if foreign priority is claimed)
16. ☐ Other:

17. If a CONTINUING APPLICATION, check appropriate box and supply the requisite information:

[] Continuation [] Divisional [] Continuation-in-part (CIP) of prior application No:

18. CORRESPONDENCE ADDRESS



21171

PATENT TRADEMARK OFFICE

Staas & Halsey

NEW APPLICATION FEE TRANSMITTAL

Attorney Docket No. 1083..1076/JDH
 Application Number TO BE ASSIGNED
 Filing Date October 23, 2000
 First Named Inventor Tomohito SHIDA

AMOUNT ENCLOSED \$1070.00

FEE CALCULATION (fees effective 12/29/99)

CLAIMS	(1) FOR	(2) NUMBER FILED	(3) NUMBER EXTRA	(4) RATE	(5) CALCULATIONS
TOTAL CLAIMS	12	- 20 =	0	X \$ 18.00 =	\$ 0.00
INDEPENDENT CLAIMS	7	- 3 =	4	X \$ 80.00 =	320.00
MULTIPLE DEPENDENT CLAIMS (any number; if applicable)				+ \$260.00 =	0.00
BASIC FILING FEE					710.00
Total of above Calculations =					\$ 1030.00
Surcharge for late filing fee, Statement or Power of Attorney (\$130.00)					0.00
Reduction by 50% for filing by small entity (37 CFR 1.9, 1.27 & 1.28).					- 0.00
TOTAL FILING FEE =					\$ 1030.00
Surcharge for filing non-English language application (\$130.00; 37 CFR 1.52(d))					0.00
Recordation of Assignment (\$40.00; 37 CFR 1.21(h)(1))					40.00
TOTAL FEES DUE =					\$ 1070.00

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- ☒ Check enclosed as payment.
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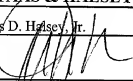
19-3935

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STAAS & HALSEY LLP

- ☒ The Commissioner is also authorized to credit any overpayments or charge any additional fees required under 37 CFR 1.16 (filing fees) or 37 CFR 1.17 (processing fees) during the prosecution of this application, including any related application(s) claiming benefit hereof pursuant to 35 USC § 120 (e.g., continuations/divisionals/CIPs under 37 CFR 1.53(b) and/or continuations/divisionals/CPAs under 37 CFR 1.53(d)) to maintain pendency hereof or of any such related application.

SUBMITTED BY: **STAAS & HALSEY LLP**

Typed Name	James D. Halsey, Jr.	Reg. No.	22,729
Signature		Date	October 23, 2000

TITLE OF THE INVENTION

Method, system, and
apparatus for accepting transaction reservation,
and recording medium

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BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION

The present invention relates to a method for accepting transaction reservation, in which charges to offer products or services are presented on a network, and reservation to pay the above charges for the products or the services is accepted; a system and an apparatus for accepting transaction reservation to execute the above method; and to a recording medium to store computer programs which cause a computer to function as the above apparatus.

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In a shop to offer various kinds of products and services, there have been a time zone (hereinafter, called as a quiet time zone) when only a few customers visit there, according to characters of the products or services which are handled there. There may be quiet time zones between breakfast and lunch, and between lunch and supper, for example, in a shop such as a restaurant to offer dishes. On the other hand, a shop such as a supermarket may have quiet time zones during lunch, supper and the like.

25
However, it may be preferable to shorten such quiet time zone as much as possible in order to efficiently offer

the products or services. Then, there have conventionally been a sale time zone when the products and services are sold at discount prices lower than usual ones in order to shorten the above quiet time zone.

For example, in a shop such as a supermarket, products which should be sold on that day, and left unsold just before the end of business hours have been generally offered as a bargain at a discount price. Thereby, it has been realized to reduce the number of products left unsold to the minimum.

In each shop, there have been performed operations to exchange price tags, price tables, and so on showing usual charges to ones with discount charges to offer such time-limited services and bargain products (hereinafter, called as discount services). And, there have been calling customers in, handing out leaflets, and so on, in front of the shop to advertise that the products or services are offered at discount charges.

20 However, it is difficult to promptly perform the above
exchanging of price tags, price tables, and so on, calling
and handing out of leaflets in front of the shop, as they
have required much hard labor. Therefore, there have been a
problem that it is impossible to change discount charges
defined at discount sales into appropriate ones according to
25 momentarily changing conditions.

Similarly, it has been difficult to perform the above operations on a large scale, as much labor has been required. Therefore, there has been a problem that it is impossible for customers to easily obtain information that discount sales are in progress. Accordingly, there has been a problem that it is difficult to level this number of customers in the shop, that is, to shorten the quiet time zones.

Recently, communication networks, for example, the Internet has been rapidly widespread along with development of building up of communication environments, and then, computer systems offering various kinds of services has been realized, using such communication networks. The above computer systems may offer promptly and on a large scale with less labor in comparison with that manual labors.

BRIEF SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION

The present invention has been made, considering the above progress of computer systems, and has an object to provided a method for accepting transaction reservation, in which terms for a transaction target are defined and disclosed on a network, and a lot of customers may promptly have information that discount services are available, by accepting reservation to perform the transaction based on the above terms, and, moreover, to perform reservation for

the discount service; a system and apparatus for accepting transaction reservation to execute the above method; and a recording medium to store computer programs which make a computer function as the above apparatus.

5 Another object of the present invention is to provide a method for accepting transaction reservation to define appropriate terms according to momentarily changing conditions, by definition of terms for transaction such as a discount rate in a discount service, based on reservation states for the transaction; a system and an apparatus for
10 accepting transaction reservation, and a recording medium for them.

Further another object of the present invention is to provide a method for accepting transaction reservation, in
15 the case of execution of transaction based on specific terms, to perform transaction based on the specific terms only when it is confirmed that the transaction reservation has been actually made, after checking whether the reservation has been made or not; a system and an apparatus
20 for accepting transaction reservation; and a recording medium for them.

Still another object of the present invention is to provide a method for accepting transaction reservation, in the case of confirmation that transaction reservation has
25 been made based on specific terms, to offer favors according

to the above terms instead of performing transactions based on the above terms; a system and an apparatus for accepting transaction reservation; and a recording medium for them.

The method according to a first invention is
5 characterized in that a method for accepting transaction reservation, comprising the steps of: electronically presenting information on transaction favors of a transaction target defined for each time zone to a plurality of customers; electronically accepting information on
10 transaction reservation at a selected time zone by a customer; and performing a transaction with favors for the reserved transaction target, when the visiting time of a customer to a shop, or the finish time of the transaction is included in the time zone in association with said accepted
15 information on transaction reservation.

The method according to a second invention is characterized in that a method for accepting transaction reservation of a transaction target, comprising the steps of: determining terms for a transaction of a transaction;
20 displaying the determined terms for the transaction ; and accepting reservation of transaction of the transaction target based on the displayed terms.

The method according to a third invention is characterized in that, in the method according to a second
25 invention, the step of determining the terms for a

transaction is a step of determining terms for a transaction based on the state of the transaction reservation.

The method according to a fourth invention is characterized in that, in the method according to the second
5 or third invention, the accepting step further comprises a step of confirming whether the reservation has been accepted.

The method according to a fifth invention is characterized in that, a reception method for deal booking
10 according to claim 4, characterized in that it further comprises the following steps: a method according to claim 4, further comprising the steps of: determining favors for the reserved transaction which has been confirmed to be accepted by the confirmation step, based on its terms; and
15 offering the determined favors.

The system according to a sixth invention is characterized that, a system for accepting transaction reservation provided with a plurality of terminal devices, and an apparatus for accepting transaction reservation,
20 connected to the terminal devices respectively, to accept reservation for a transaction of a transaction target, characterized in that said accepting apparatus comprises:
(i) a terms determination means for determining terms for a transaction of a transaction target; and (ii) a transaction
25 terms display means for displaying the terms for the

products are offered.

Customers may perform transaction reservation without a geographic restriction by electronic accepting of information on transaction reservation, and receive the
5 favors shown in information on transaction favors, by performing deals based on the above booking.

Here, the finish time of the transaction means the purchase time in the case of purchasing products at the shop, or time to receive services in the case of receiving
10 offered service.

In the second, sixth, and seventh inventions, terms for reserved transaction target are defined and displayed. Then, reservation to perform transaction of a transaction target is accepted, based on the above displayed terms.

Thus, a lot of customers may promptly have information,
15 by disclosure of defined terms for transactions, that special services are offered.

It may be possible to predict, by accepting reservation to perform transaction based on the above terms for
20 transaction, to what degree of transactions based on the terms are actually performed. Thereby, they in a shop may obtain information to what degree of products should be prepared.

In the third invention, terms for transaction are
25 defined based on reservation states for transaction.

The above and further objects and features of the invention will be more fully be apparent from the following detailed description with accompanying drawings.

5 BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE SEVERAL VIEWS OF THE DRAWING

FIG. 1 shows a block diagram of a configuration of a system for accepting transaction reservation according to embodiment 1 of the present invention;

FIG. 2 shows a block diagram of a configuration of an apparatus for accepting transaction reservation according to embodiment 1 of the present invention;

FIG. 3 shows a conceptual diagram of a format example of a file stored in a bargain data base (DB);

FIGS. 4A through 4D show conceptual diagrams of format examples of a table stored in a basic data DB;

FIG. 5 shows a conceptual diagram of a format example of a file stored in a reservation data DB;

FIG. 6 shows a flow chart of an operation flow of a system for accepting transaction reservation according to embodiment 1 of the present invention at registration processing of bargain data, or basic data;

FIG. 7 shows a flow chart of an operation flow of an apparatus for accepting transaction reservation according to embodiment 1 of the present invention at display of bargain data;

FIG. 8 shows a flow chart of an operation flow of a system for accepting transaction reservation according to embodiment 1 of the present invention at accepting reservation;

5 FIG. 9 shows a flow chart of an operation flow of a system for accepting transaction reservation according to embodiment 1 of the present invention at confirmation of reservation;

10 FIG. 10 shows a block diagram of a configuration of an apparatus for accepting transaction reservation according to embodiment 2 of the present invention;

FIG. 11 shows a conceptual diagram of a format example of a file stored in a favored point DB; and

15 FIG. 12 shows a flow chart of an operation flow of a system for accepting transaction reservation according to embodiment 2 of the present invention at confirmation of booking.

DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF THE INVENTION

20 (Embodiment 1)

FIG. 1 shows a block diagram of a configuration of the system for accepting transaction reservation according to embodiment 1 of the present invention. In FIG. numerals 1, 1, 1 ... show terminal devices, which are provided in customer's home 10 and office 11, and a shop 12. In the

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CPU 21, an external memory 23 comprising a CD-ROM drive or a flexible disk drive, and so on to read programs of the apparatus for accepting transaction reservation 2 according to embodiment 1 of the present invention from a portable recording medium 100 such as a CD-ROM, or a flexible disk storing the above programs, a hard disk 24 to store programs of the present invention read through the above external memory 23, and a communication interface 25 for connection with the above network 3 are connected.

10 The above hard disk 24 comprises three data bases (a bargain data DB 240, a basic data DB 241, and a reservation data DB 242) described later.

15 The programs of the apparatus for accepting transaction reservation 2 according to embodiment 1 of the present invention may be read from the above portable recording medium 100, and, moreover, may be downloaded, by connection to an external server computer 4 through the network 3, from a recording medium 5, which is installed in the above external server computer 4 and stores the above programs, to the above apparatus for accepting transaction reservation 2. 20 The above accepting device 2 may execute the processing described below by storing the downloaded programs in the above hard disk 24, and by loading the stored programs to the RAM 22 by the CPU 21.

25 Then, the above three data bases will be described

prices between 9 a.m. and 11 a.m. on November 10, 1999.

A second data base, that is, the basic data DB 241 stores a various kinds of data (hereinafter, called as basic data), which are used for calculation of the above discount rate, in a form of a table. The above basic data are received from the terminal devices 1, 1 ..., according to the procedure described below.

FIG. 4 shows a conceptual diagram of a format example of a table stored in the basic data DB 241. FIG. 4A shows a table with a target number of persons coming to a shop and a prospective number of the persons, in which the target number of persons coming to the shop and the prospective number of the persons at each time zone are defined and stored. FIGS. 4B and 4C show a day-of-week coefficient table and a weather coefficient table, respectively. The above coefficients are defined for each day-of-week and each weather, according to the prospective number of persons coming to the shop, and stored in the above tables, respectively. Moreover, FIG. 4D shows a discount rate table which stores discount rates corresponding to reservation rates calculated according to the procedure described below.

The table stored in the basic data DB 241 is not limited to the above table, and for example, a table including coefficients defined according to prospective number of persons coming to the shop for each month or each

temperature may be stored. Moreover, the above tables are prepared and stored in each shop.

5 A third database, that is, the reservation data DB 242 stores reservation data on the reservation accepted from each customer. And the above reservation data is received from the terminal devices 1, 1 ... according to the procedure described later.

FIG. 5 shows a conceptual diagram of a format example of a file stored in a reservation data DB 242. As shown in
10 FIG. 5, five fields, that is, a customer ID field 42a, a shop ID field 42b, a date and time field 42c, and a reservation data field 42d, and a reservation ID field 42e are provided in the reservation data DB 242.

A customer identifier (hereinafter, called as a
15 customer ID) to identify each customer and a shop ID for each shop are stored in the customer ID field 42a and the shop ID field 42b, respectively. Moreover, a date and time when the reservation has been accepted, data showing the contents of the reservation, and a reservation identifier
20 (hereinafter, called as a reservation ID) to identify the reservation are stored in the date and time field 42c, the reservation data field 42d, and the reservation ID field 42e, respectively.

The format example shown in FIG. 5 denotes that, for
25 example, at 10 a.m. on November 10, 1999, a customer with a

customer ID of 123456" has reserved a discount service that all the products in a shop with a shop ID of "A" will be sold at a discount rate of 10%, and the reservation ID is "1".

5 For example, in a shop having a membership system, an identifier for each member is used for a customer ID stored in the customer ID field 42a, and in a shop without such membership system, a name of each customer, and so on are used.

10 Then, the operation of the system for accepting transaction reservation of the embodiment of the present invention will be described.

FIG. 6 shows a flow chart of an operation flow of a system for accepting transaction reservation according to the embodiment 1 of the present invention at registration processing of bargain data, or basic data.

15 The terminal devices 1, 1 ... display a screen for promotion to input the bargain data (or, basic data) on the devices themselves. Employees of each shop, and so on input the bargain data (or, basic data) with respect to the screen.

When the bargain data (or, basic data) is received (S101), the terminal devices 1, 1 ... transmit received bargain data (or, basic data) to the apparatus for accepting transaction reservation 2 (S102).

The apparatus for accepting transaction reservation 2 registers the received bargain data (or, basic data) in the bargain data DB 240 (or, basic data DB 241) (S202), when the bargain data (or, basic data) is received from the terminal devices 1, 1 ... (S201), and transmits registration-completion data, denoting that the registration to the bargain data DB 240 (or, basic data DB 241) has been completed, to the terminal devices 1, 1 ... (S203).

The devices 1, 1 ... displays the received registration-completion data on the display screen of the terminal devices 1, 1 ... (S104), when the registration-completion data is received from the apparatus for accepting transaction reservation 2 (S103).

Thereby, the employees of the shop and so on may register the desired bargain data (or, basic data) to the apparatus for accepting transaction reservation 2. The above registration processing is performed, whenever it is judged that the previously registered bargain data (or, basic data) is required to be changed.

FIG. 7 shows a flow chart of an operation flow of the apparatus for accepting transaction reservation 2 according to embodiment 1 of the present invention at display of the bargain data.

The apparatus for accepting transaction reservation 2 calculates prospective number of unreserved coming to a

number of persons coming to the shop stored in the table, shown in FIG. 4A. According to the above calculation example, for example, when the reservation number at 10 a.m. on a rainy Saturday is 76, the reservation rate is calculated by division of 76 by subtraction of 48 from 200 to obtain 0.5, that is, 50(%).

Then, a discount rate for an offering service is calculated, based on the reservation rate calculated at the step S302 (S303). The above calculation is performed, using the discount rate table shown in FIG. 4D. That is, when the reservation rate is 50(%) as in the above example, the discount rate becomes 20(%).

The discount rate calculated as above is stored in a discount rate field 40e of the bargain data DB 240 to update the contents of the bargain data DB 240 (S304). The updated contents of the bargain data DB 240 is displayed (S305). Here, the display means the disclosure on the network 3. Each customer may confirm the contents of the bargain data DB 240, using the terminal devices 1, 1...

Moreover, the discount rate may be calculated by the apparatus for accepting transaction reservation 2 as shown above, but the rate may be also defined by the employees of each shop. In such a case, the employees transmit the discount rate to the apparatus for accepting transaction reservation 2, using the terminal devices 1, 1 ... Then,

the apparatus for accepting transaction reservation 2 stores the received discount rate to the discount rate field 40e of the bargain data DB 240 and displays it.

5 The above processing may be also executed when display of the bargain data is required from the terminal devices 1, 1 ... of customers. Moreover, after the steps S301 through S304 are executed at a regular interval, the step S305 may be configured to be executed when display of the bargain data is required from the terminal devices 1, 1 ... of
10 customers.

FIG. 8 shows a flow chart of an operation flow of the system for accepting transaction reservation according to embodiment 1 of the present invention at accepting reservation.

15 The terminal devices 1, 1 ... display a screen for promotion to input the reservation application date showing the application of the reservation on the devices themselves. Each customer inputs the reservation application data with the devices.

20 When the reservation application data is received (S401), the terminal devices 1, 1 ... send the received reservation application data to the apparatus for accepting transaction reservation 2 (S402).

The apparatus for accepting transaction reservation 2
25 registers the received reservation application data in the

FIG. 9 shows a flow chart of an operation flow of the system for accepting transaction reservation according to embodiment 1 of the present invention at confirmation of reservation.

5 In each shop, the employees and so on input reservation confirmation data including the above reservation ID to the terminal devices 1, 1 ... in order to confirm the reservation, when the reservation ID is told. The terminal devices 1, 1 ... transmit the accepted reservation
10 confirmation data to the apparatus for accepting transaction reservation 2 (S602), when the reservation confirmation data is accepted (S601).

 When the apparatus for accepting transaction reservation 2 receives the reservation confirmation data
15 from the terminal devices 1, 1 ... (S701), referring to the reservation data DB 242 (S702), the reservation ID included in the reservation confirmation data is retrieved as a key (S703). In the case of failure in the retrieval (NO at the step S703), the confirmation failure data showing that the
20 reservation confirmation has not been performed is transmitted to the terminal devices 1, 1 ... (S704).

 The devices 1, 1 ... display the received confirmation failure data on the display screen of the devices themselves (S604), when the confirmation failure data is received from
25 the apparatus for accepting transaction reservation 2

(S603).

On the other hand, when there is success in the retrieval of the reservation data DB 242 at the step S703 (YES at the step S703), the confirmation success data
5 showing that the reservation confirmation has been performed is transmitted to the terminal devices 1, 1 ... (S705).

The devices 1, 1 ... display the received confirmation success data on the display screen of the devices themselves (S606), when the confirmation success data is received from
10 the apparatus for accepting transaction reservation 2 (S605).

Then, when the reservation has been confirmed, and the time of the above confirmation is included in the time zone shown in the reservation data, the customer may receive the
15 services in association with the reservation.

Moreover, when the time of coming to the shop is included in the time zone shown in the reservation data, the customer may be also configured to receive the above services. In the above case, the time of coming to a shop
20 of the customer may be configured to be identified, for example, by a method in which the customer receives a piece of paper with printed time of coming to the shop when the customer comes to the shop.

And, when the accepting service for transaction
25 reservation realized by the system for accepting transaction

are denoted by the same reference numerals, and the description will be eliminated.

FIG. 11 shows a conceptual diagram of a format example of a file stored in the above fourth data base, that is, a
5 favored point DB 243.

As shown in FIG. 11, the favored point DB 243 has three fields, that is, a customer ID field 43a, a shop ID field 43b, and a point field 43c.

The customer ID field 43a, the shop ID field 43b, and
10 the point field 43c, respectively, store a customer ID to identify each customer, a shop ID of each shop, and points corresponding to monetary values, with which, for example, a product with a value of ¥1 may be purchased by one point.

For example, the format example shown in FIG. 11
15 denotes that 500 points, which may be used in a shop with a shop ID of "A", are given to a customer with a customer ID of "123456".

Now, operation of the system for accepting transaction reservation according to embodiment 2 of the present
20 invention will be described. But, the registration of the bargain data and basic data, the display of the bargain data, and the operation at each processing for accepting the reservation are similar to those of embodiment 1 to eliminate the description.

25 FIG. 12 shows a flow chart of an operation flow of the

system for accepting transaction reservation according to
embodiment 2 of the present invention at confirmation of
reservation. Processing similar to that in embodiment 1 is
denoted by the same reference numerals, and its description
5 will be eliminated.

In the case of the success in the retrieval of the
reservation data DB 242 at the step S703 (YES at the step
703), points corresponding to the discount rate for the
confirmed reservation is calculated (S801). The above
10 calculation is performed by, for example, making points
correspond to the charges equivalent to the discounted
amount. According to the above calculation, the points
become 500, when the discount rate for a products with a
price of ¥5,000 is 10%.

15 The favored point DB 243 is updated by storing the
point calculated as shown above in the point field 43c of
the favored point DB 243 (S802). And, based on the updated
contents, data on the newly added points and the cumulative
points is transmitted to the terminal devices 1, 1 ...
20 (S803).

The devices 1, 1 ... display the received point data on
the display screen of the devices themselves (S902), when
the point data is received from the apparatus for accepting
transaction reservation 2 (S901).

25 In the present embodiment, the point calculation is

As mentioned above, when the reservation is confirmed, customers may obtain points corresponding to the contents of reserved services. Thereby, as there is no apparent sign that special services shown in the bargain data are offered, customers who have come to the shop without reservation have no feeling that they are suffered from any feeling of loss.

And, in the case of no execution of the reserved transaction, reduction in the cumulative points by an appropriate points may be performed. In the above case, a fixed point previously determined may be reduced, or the reduced points may be calculated according to reserved products and services.

As this invention may be embodied in several forms without departing from the spirit of essential characteristics thereof, the present embodiment is therefore, illustrative and not restrictive, since the scope of the invention is defined by the appended claims rather than by the description preceding them, and all changes that fall within metes and bounds of the claims, or equivalence of such metes and bounds thereof are therefore intended to be embraced by the claims.

CLAIMS

1. A method for accepting transaction reservation, comprising the steps of:

electronically presenting information on transaction favors of a transaction target defined for each time zone to a plurality of customers;

electronically accepting information on transaction reservation at a selected time zone by a customer; and

performing a transaction with favors for the reserved transaction target, when the visiting time of a customer to a shop, or the finish time of the transaction is included in the time zone in association with said accepted information on transaction reservation.

2. A method for accepting transaction reservation of a transaction target, comprising the steps of:

determining terms for a transaction of a transaction; displaying the determined terms for the transaction ; and

accepting reservation of transaction of the transaction target based on the displayed terms.

3. A method according to claim 2, wherein the step of determining the terms for a transaction is a step of determining terms for a transaction based on the state of the transaction reservation.

4. A method according to claim 2, wherein the accepting step further comprises a step of confirming whether the

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(ii) a transaction terms display means for displaying the terms for the transaction determined by the terms determinations means;

(i) an accepting means for accepting reservation application data which represents reservation application for a transaction of a transaction target based on the displayed terms; and

(ii) a transmission means for transmitting the reservation application data accepted by the accepting means to the accepting apparatus; and

said accepting apparatus further comprises a storage means for storing received reservation application data, when the reservation application data is received.

9. An apparatus for accepting transaction reservation to accept reservation application for a transaction of a transaction target, comprising:

a terms determination means for determining terms for a transaction of a transaction target;

a transaction terms display means for displaying the determined terms for the transaction by the terms determination means; and

displaying the terms for the determined transaction;
and
storing the reservation application data which
represents reservation application for a transaction of a
transaction target based on the displayed transaction terms
in the storage medium, when the reservation application data
is input.

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FIG. 1

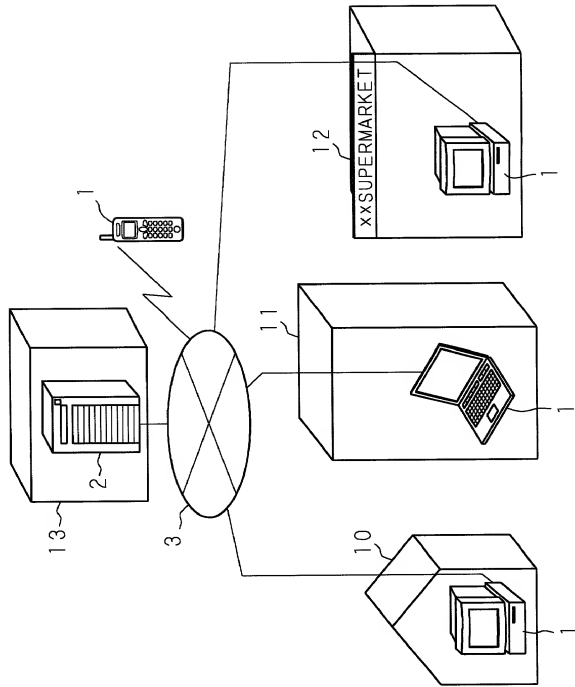


FIG. 2

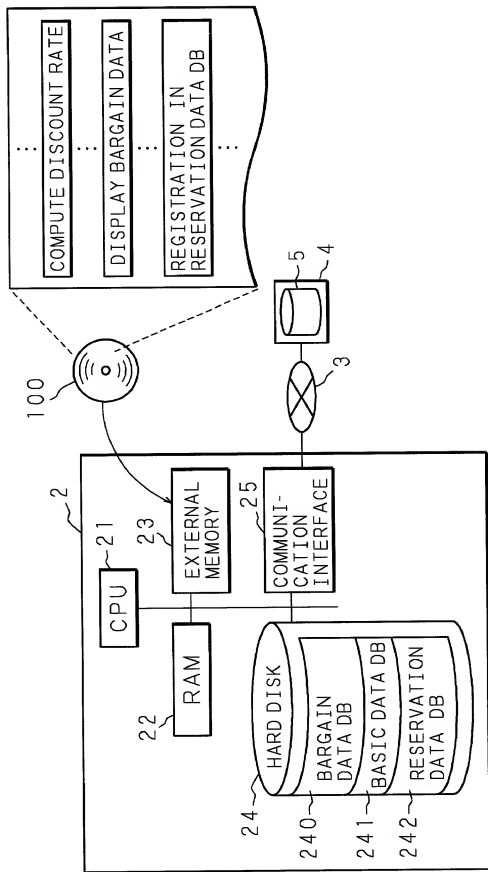


FIG. 3

40a	40b	40c	40d	40e
SHOP ID	DATE	TIME	BARGAIN TARGET	DISCOUNT RATE (%)
A	1999/11/10	9:00~11:00	UNIFORMLY	10
B	1999/11/10	19:00~20:00	ASSORTED SLICED RAW FISH	20
⋮	⋮	⋮	⋮	⋮

FIG. 4 A

TIME	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20
TARGET NUMBER OF PERSONS	200	200	150	200	200	200	200	200	200	150	200
PROSPECTIVE NUMBER OF PERSONS	50	70	50	70	80	100	150	150	100	60	50

FIG. 4 B

DAY OF WEEK	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT	SUN
COEFFICIENT (%)	60	70	70	70	80	120	150

FIG. 4 C

WEATHER	SUNNY	CLOUDY	RAINY
COEFFICIENT (%)	100	100	80

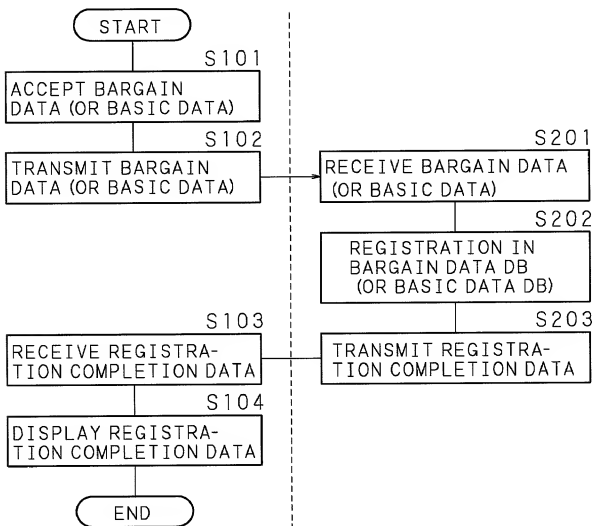
FIG. 4 D

RESERVATION RATE (%)	0	10	20	30	40	50	60	70	80	90	100
DISCOUNT RATE (%)	40	30	30	30	20	20	20	20	10	10	10

FIG. 6

<TERMINAL DEVICE>

<TRANSACTION RESERVATION
ACCEPTING APPARATUS>



000001.102300

FIG. 7

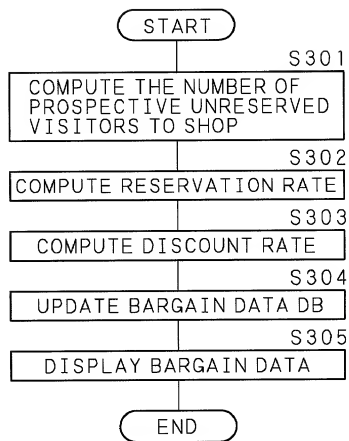
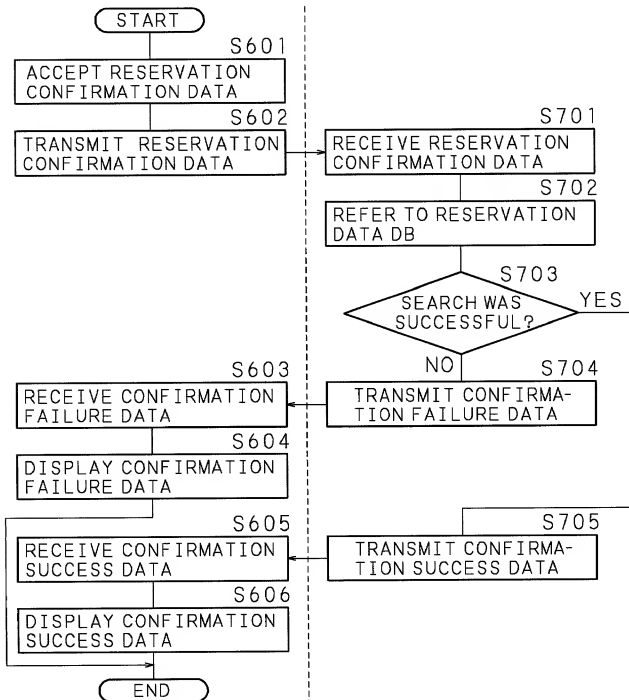


FIG. 9

<TERMINAL DEVICE>

<TRANSACTION RESERVATION
ACCEPTING APPARATUS>



09693919.102300

FIG. 10

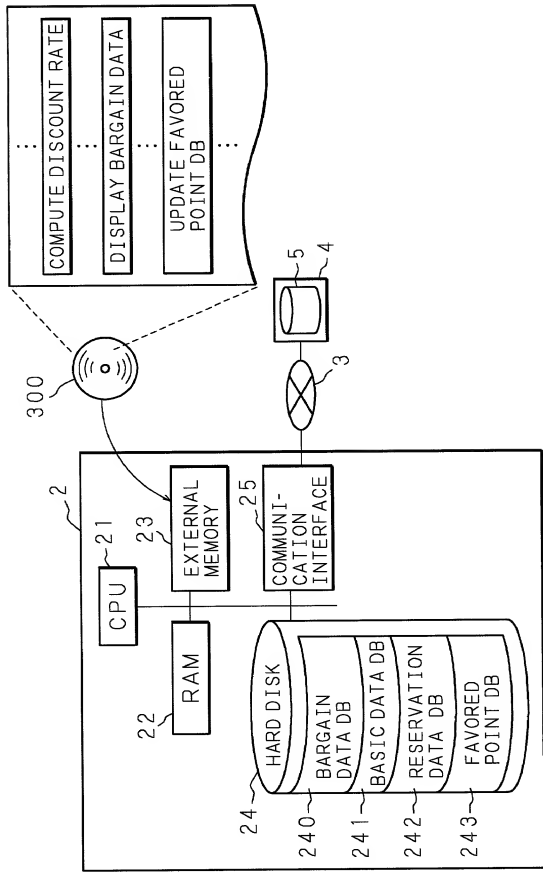


FIG. 11

43a CUSTOMER ID	43b SHOP ID	43c POINT
123456	A	500
333333	B	196
⋮	⋮	⋮

04663919.10200

THE UNIVERSITY OF CHICAGO



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Declaration and Power of Attorney For Patent Application

特許出願宣言書及び委任状

Japanese Language Declaration

日本語宣言書

下々の氏名の発明者として、私は以下の通り宣言します。

As a below named inventor, I hereby declare: "that:

私の住所、私書箱、国籍は下記の私の氏名の後に記載された通りです。

My residence, post office address and citizenship are as stated next to my name.

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I believe I am the original, first and sole inventor (if only one name is listed below) or an original, first and joint inventor (if plural names are listed below) of the subject matter which is claimed and for which a patent is sought on the invention entitled

METHOD, SYSTEM, AND APPARATUS FOR

ACCEPTING TRANSACTION RESERVATION,

AND RECORDING MEDIUM

上記発明の明細書（下記の欄でx印がついていない場合は、本書に添付）は、

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☐ was filed on _____
as United States Application Number or
PCT International Application Number
_____ and was amended on
_____ (if applicable).

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Prior Foreign Application(s)

外国での先行出願

2000-074889
(Number)
(番号)

Japan
(Country)
(国名)

16/03/2000

(Day/Month/Year Filed)
(出願年月日)

Priority Not Claimed

優先権主張なし

☐

(Number)
(番号)

(Country)
(国名)

(Day/Month/Year Filed)
(出願年月日)

☐

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(Application No.)
(出願番号)

(Filing Date)
(出願日)

(Application No.)
(出願番号)

(Filing Date)
(出願日)

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(Application No.)
(出願番号)

(Filing Date)
(出願日)

(Status: Patented, Pending, Abandoned)
(現況: 特許許可済、係属中、放棄済)

(Application No.)
(出願番号)

(Filing Date)
(出願日)

(Status: Patented, Pending, Abandoned)
(現況: 特許許可済、係属中、放棄済)

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 の氏名及び登録番号を明記のこと)

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日付

Inventor's signature

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日付

Second inventor's signature

Date

住所

Residence

国籍

Citizenship

私書箱

Post Office Address

(第三以降の共同発明者についても同様に記載し、署名をす
 ること)

(Supply similar information and signature for third and subsequent
 joint inventors.)